

REMARKS

In the Office action dated September 24, 2010, Claims 11, 13-17, 19, and 20 are pending. Claims 11, 13, 17, 19, and 20 stand rejected. Claims 11, 13, 17, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kelly, U.S. Patent No. 6,220,569. Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kelly in view of Ueda et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,085,921.

Examiner Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Hogan for conducting a telephone interview on September 16, 2010 with Applicants representatives, Nam Huynh and Darren Collins, to discuss the above identified patent application. During the interview, features distinguishing the claimed invention in view of the cited prior art were discussed. In particular, the features and advantages of a separate plunger and a second guide spring were discussed in distinguishing the patent application from the cited references. An agreement was reached that said features if included in the independent claims would overcome the combination of the cited references.

Response to Rejections

Based on the interview, Applicants amend Claims 11 and 15-17 to further distinguish the claims and to expedite prosecution of this Application. Applicants cancel Claim 14. Support for the amendments to Claims 11 and 17 may be found in the Specification at least on page 5, lines 6-9. No new matter is being introduced by way of the amendments.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are patentable over the combination of the cited references at least because the combination of the cited references does not teach or suggest each and every element of the limitations as recited in the amended claims. At least based on the amended features of Claims 11 and 17, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 11, 13, 15-17, 19, and 20 are now in condition for allowance.

Additionally, Applicants are not admitting that Claims 11 and 17 are unpatentable in lieu of the amendment and reserve the right to pursue additional coverage relating to the claimed subject matter in one or more continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and accordingly, respectfully request the allowance thereof. If the Examiner feels a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner. Any communication initiated by this paragraph should be deemed an "Applicant-Initiated Interview."

Applicants believe no fee is due. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 19-3140, under Order No. 11000054-0033 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 5, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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